

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: SONY-06601

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 31-70 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 31-70 have been rejected. Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 31-70 are currently pending.

Double Patenting

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 31-70 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1 and 9-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,680,944. The Applicants respectfully submit a timely filed terminal disclaimer attached hereto to effectively remove the double patenting rejections of Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 31-70.

For the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be greatly appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: February 16, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR§ 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

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Date: 2-16-05 By: Ton-D. Ruan